(a) whether Government propose to set up a new expert Committee to review the Tehri Dam Project ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for setting up the Committee ; and

(c) whether any assurance in this regard was given to the Janta Dal M.Ps. by Government in the context of the fast undertaken by Shri Sunder Lal Bahuguna ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Hon'ble Members of Parliament were reassured of Government's intention to have another look at the safety aspects of the Tehri Dam Project.

Registration of Brokers with SEBI

*111. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has issued a directive to levy hefty fees for registration of brokers ;

(b) if so, what is the amount of fee payable, the rationale behind it, and whether it is mandatory for all brokers to get themselves registered with SEBI ;

(c) what is the total amount expected to be collected by SEBI from these registrations ; and

(d) what will be the effect of this directive on trading by small brokers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued a letter dated the 10th April, 1992 to Stock Exchanges advising them to supply to their Members a copy of the application form for registration which was enclosed with the letter and to forward to SEBI the application forms alongwith the prescribed fee. Taking into account the concern expressed by stock brokers, SEBI subsequently reduced the one-time registration fee and has provided an option that the fee of 1/100th of 1% of turnover of the individual brokers may be paid annually for a period of five years. The fee works out to Rs. 1000 per Rs. 1 crore turnover of the broker.

Under section 12(1) of SEBI Act, 1992, it is mandatory for all stock brokers to get themselves registered with SEBI. The registration is necessary to regulate the activities of stock brokers with a view to ensuring fair and transparent service to investors and healthy development of capital market.

(c) The amount expected to be collected by SEBI is about Rs. 13 crores per annum for a period of five years.

(d) As the stock brokers have an option to pay the fee based on their turnover, the proposed fee is unlikely to adversely affect trading in securities by them.

Revenue Secretary's Visit to IMF Headquarters

*112. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether t is a fact that the then Revenue Secretary had visited the IMF Headquarters at Washington in the first half of the year 1990 ;

(b) if so, whether his agenda for discussion with the IMF authorities included direct and indirect tax-structure and the overall tax policy pursued in India ; and

(c) if so, what was the broad outcome of the visit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There was an exchange of views on the experience of various countries with regard to different aspects of tax reform and their relevance and suitability